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JPRS L/8901

4 February 1980

# Sub-Saharan Africa Report

FOUO No. 665



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## SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA REPORT

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INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

REPORTAGE ON CENTRAL, WEST AFRICAN ORGANIZATIONS

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 21 Dec 79 pp 3626-27, 3616

[Text] UDEAC Summit Meeting in Bangui: Mostly Financial Problems and Possible Readmission of Chad

The 15th conference of UDEAC (Central African Customs and Economic Union) chiefs of state was held in Bangui on 11 and 12 December. It was attended by the presidents of four member states: Ahidjo (Cameroon), Bongo (Gabon), Sassour Nguesso (Congo) and Dacko (RCA [Central African Republic]).

In his closing speech, outgoing president David Dacko (RCA) praised the efficiency of the summit meeting and announced that the next meeting of the UDEAC would be in December 1980 in Brazzaville (Congo) under the chairmanship of Col Sassou Nguesso, president of the People's Republic of the Congo.

Vincent Efon (Cameroon), the union's secretary general, whose mandate was extended by another three years, indicated the nature of the acts passed by the summit meeting, dealing specifically with the status of professional accountants, the accounting plan of banks and enterprises, and the budget of the union's agencies.

Furthermore, some decisions were made at the summit meeting on the regional agricultural census plan, improvements of civil servant systems, separate home taxation, and statistical improvements.

The social security conventions which would have been submitted to the arbitration of the chiefs of state were not adopted and will be submitted to further investigations.

According to the observers, the summit dealt essentially with financial problems, and it was on this basis that the governor of the Bank of Central African States (BEAC) and the director general of the Development Bank of Central African States (BDEAC) were heard by the council. The administrative councils of both agencies had met shortly before the

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summit (see infra). This predominance of financial problems was also one of the reasons for the attendance of the summit meeting by Mahamat Saleh Ahmat, Chad's minister of finance and chairman of the administrative council of the BEAC.

The other reason, according to statements made to the AFP by the Chad minister, is Chad's interest in the UDEAC to which it would like to be readmitted. A UDEAC mission will visit Ndjamen in April to discuss the question.

Let us recall that Chad left the UDEAC in 1968 to set up with Zaire and the RCA--which has subsequently rejoined the UDEAC--a Union of Central African States (UEAC) which never became properly operational.

BEAC: Meeting of the Administrative Council

The administrative council of the Bank of Central African States met on 6 December in Bangui under the presidency of Mahamat Saleh, minister of finance, buildings, and materials of the Republic of Chad.

The council reviewed the situation with raw materials on international marketplaces and undertook a study of the economic situation of the countries within the zone, compared with the situation which prevailed in the course of its July 1979 regular meeting. The situation is characterized by an assertion of the trend then noted of increased output of the three main agricultural export products (cocoa, coffee, and cotton), and of most of the mining output, whereas forestry exploitation showed no noticeable change in terms of output or exports.

Analyzing the development of emissions of the main monetary units in the zone, the council noted a substantial decline over the past four months of the net external position of the monetary system as well as a strong growth of internal zones.

The administrators then examined the final account of the 1978-1979 fiscal year and unanimously accepted the financial results. Furthermore, the council studies the quarterly reports submitted by the national monetary committees and approved the proposals for the overall ceilings submitted.

It then examined requests for short and medium-term loans submitted by the various national financial committees and approved certain stipulations related to measures for the use of the monetary market whose creation within the emission zone had been decided in its previous meeting.

After approving the characteristics of some money issues whose emission is planned, the council decided that its next meeting will be held in Ndjamen in March 1980.



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BDEAC: Meeting of the Administrative Council and of the General Meeting in Bangui

The meetings of the administrative council and the ordinary general meeting of the Development Bank of Central African States (BDEAC) were held on 5 December 1979 in Bangui. They were chaired by Jean-Pierre Le Boudier, Central African minister of state in charge of the plan, cooperation and statistics, and of supervising companies and study enterprises dealing with projects related to the organization and promotion of agro-industrial operations, standing for Alphonse Koyamba, first vice minister in charge of the economy, finances, posts and telecommunications, and of control over state enterprises.

After analyzing the financial state of the bank, the council accepted the accounts and report of activities of the fiscal year which ended on 30 June 1979, took note of the temporary situation of the bank on 30 September 1979, and adopted the financial regulation which determines the general rules governing financial management.

Examining the file of resource mobilization, the council was pleased with the achieved progress. It therefore decided to recommend to the general stockholders' meeting to admit the FRG as a stockholder and authorize the director general to sign with Switzerland a financial corporation convention on a subsidy totaling 700,000 Swiss francs for the financing of studies and technical assistance. It also issued to the director general's office the necessary directives for the pursuit of negotiations for obtaining additional resources from some financial institutions.

The council then allowed the granting of three loans within the frame of cofinancing:

- A loan of 500 million CFA to the Gabon Development Bank to refinance a loan to be used by the Gabon Postal and Telecommunications Office, to finance the extension of the Libreville telephone network;

- A loan of 350 million CFA to the Loutete Cement Plant (Congo) for repairs and expansion with a view to raising its output to 130,000 tons;

- A loan of 350 million CFA to the Cameroon Cement Works to increase the production capacity of the plants in Figuil and Bonaberi.

These financial agreements raise to the number of seven the projects in which the BDEAC is participating and to 3 billion 50 million CFA the total of its investments as of its factual opening in 1978.

After approving the nomination of the director of the bank's studies department the council analyzed the material situation of the agents and agreed on certain changes.

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Finally, the council was informed of the result of the request for the submission of offers to the enterprises on the subject of the final central location of the bank; it considered the planning of the construction whose site will be opened in January 1980 and the financial measures to be implemented for the successful completion of this project.

The next meeting of the council will take place in March-April of 1980.

The meeting was immediately followed by the stockholders' general meeting. It approved the accounts and the report for the 1978/79 financial year decreed by the council and decided that some of the profits for distribution be used to set up a fund for financing bank study projects.

The stockholders' meeting accepted the FRG as a new contributor to the bank's capital and set its quota of the capital at 6.25 percent, totaling 1 billion CFA francs. Having noted that the initial capital of the bank had now been subscribed to the level of 15 billion 400 million CFA francs, or 96.25 percent, the general meeting noted the various proposals for the purchasing of the remaining shares.

Furthermore, the general meeting set the general limit of loans which the bank could negotiate in the course of the 1980-1981 fiscal year to 5 billion CFA francs, which would enable it to implement its program.

Finally, on the motion of the stockholders, the general meeting decided to issue or extend the mandates of the voting and nonvoting administrators for a period of three years.

The next general meeting will take place in November of 1980.

UMOA. Financial Status on 30 June 1979

The Central Bank of Western African States (BCEAO) recently published a study on the fiscal situation of the West African Monetary Union (UMOA) as of 30 June 1979.

Whereas the agricultural production campaign showed progress thanks to proper weather conditions, this situation was affected by the successive price increases of petroleum products, the growth of inflation and rising interest rates.

From the end of June of 1978 to the end of June 1979 the development of the monetary situation of the UMOA was essentially characterized by the following:

- A reversal of the new foreign position of the money institutions which changed from + 82.3 billion CFA to - 8 billion;

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- An acceleration of the growth rhythm of loans to the economy which rose by 26.5 percent, compared with 22.5 percent for the period of June 1977-June 1978;
- A slight reduction in the amount of money in circulation, reduced from 17.6 percent to 16 percent;
- An additional contribution of 90.6 billion CFA made by the Central Bank for Economic Financing.

Under the opposite influence of the stagnation of revenues from the export of raw materials and the increased cost of imports of consumer goods and equipment, on 30 June 1979 three countries showed a negative balance of their net external capital: Senegal (- 60.3 million CFA), Upper Volta (- 10.5 billion), and Ivory Coast (-2.3 billion).

Between June 1978 and June 1979 the overall negative balance of the settlement of foreign accounts by the six members of the union was - 90.3 billion CFA, compared with - 24.5 billion for the preceding 12 months. The Ivory Coast suffered a particularly substantial reverse (-72.2 billion CFA compared with + 10 billion). Senegal was affected as well (-25.7 billion CFA as opposed to -12.4 billion). A relative improvement resulting from a halt in imports was recorded in Upper Volta (-5.4 billion CFA as against -12.2 billion).

Between 30 June 1978 and 30 June 1979 internal loans rose by 251.1 billion CFA (+29.4 percent). This growth is based on a lowering of the net government loans and an additional demand for loans formulated by enterprises and private citizens. The net overall figure for the six countries was 87.5 billion CFA at the end of June 1979 (as compared with 88.6 billion the previous year). On the internal financial level, Senegal and Togo had respective debit positions of 21.1 billion CFA (+2.2 billion end of June 1978) and 9 billion CFA (+3.7 billion). In Niger, revenues from uranium exports are contributing to the prosperity of the public treasury (+12.6 billion end of 1979).

On 30 June 1979 loans to the economy totaled 1 trillion 191 billion CFA, compared with 941 billion on 30 June 1978, or a 12 month increase of 26.5 percent, compared with 22.5 percent for the previous corresponding period. Additional requests for loans varied from state to state. A particularly high acceleration was noted for Benin (+22.30 percent), Niger (+22.30 percent) and Senegal (+42.80 percent, partially explainable by the requirements of the great increase in the production of peanuts compared with the previous two harvests). In the three other countries the growth rate of loans diminished substantially totaling 23 percent in the Ivory Coast, 10.20 percent in Upper Volta, and 16 percent in Togo.

The money in circulation totaled 989 billion CFA at the end of June 1979, compared with 852 billion at the end of June 1978 (+16 percent). Circulation rose 23.60 percent in the Ivory Coast and 8.5 percent in Senegal.

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On 30 June 1979 private sector bank deposits totaled 500 billion CFA, compared with 388 billion on 30 June 1978 (+28.8 percent as against 21.9 percent for the preceding 12 month period). The Ivory Coast accounted for 283 billion CFA of the total, while Senegal accounted for 121 billion. In the other states the amount of private deposits ranged between 21 and 29 billion CFA.

As to bank deposits by public agencies their overall total at the end of June 1979 was 215 billion, compared with 226 billion at the end of June 1978.

Between June 1978 and June 1979 the total amount of loans refinanced by the Central Bank rose from 218 billion CFA to 314 billion, corresponding to 26.3 percent of the sum total of loans made to the economy. Whereas in the Ivory Coast and Togo the contribution of the Central Bank to financing the economy declined in the course of the period under consideration, conversely, it rose in the four other members of the union.

OMVS: Cornerstone of the Diama Dam Laid

Leopold-Sedar Senghor, president of Senegal, Moussa Traore, president of Mali, and Lt Col Ould Haidalla, prime minister of Mauritania, laid on 12 December the cornerstone of the Diama Dam, one of the two projects to be carried out by the Organization for the Development of the Senegal River (OMVS).

President Senghor stressed that the cornerstone was also that of a "huge complex of agroindustrial projects to be carried out over a 50 year period," which will benefit some two million people in Senegal, Mali and Mauritania.

The OMVS program which, in addition to the Diama Dam, includes that of Manantali, in Mali, was substantially changed. Thus, after 15 years of study, the Diama Dam has been reduced essentially to the function of fighting the rise of saline water. Nevertheless, it will make it possible to irrigate from 40,000 to 80,000 hectares. As to the Manantali Dam, the only one to be made of concrete, it will be built with a view to irrigating 350,000 hectares of land and control the river. The production of electric power (800 million kilowatt hours) was postponed.

The changes made to the two projects were due, in the Diama case, to technical considerations and, for Manantali, to problems of financing and the need to undertake the work with already available funds, while looking for the necessary financing for hydroelectric power equipment.

The construction of these dams, to be completed in six years, at a cost of \$600 million, already has foreign financing totaling \$500 million, 49 percent of which Arab funds, 38 percent European, and 11 percent loaned

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by the African Development Bank, as follows: Saudi Arabia, \$100 million; FRG, \$92 million; Kuwait, \$75 million; France, \$56 million; African Development Bank, \$52 million; Abou-Dhabi, \$50 million; Italy, \$24 million; Islamic Development Bank, \$20 million; European Development Fund, \$19 million; Canada, \$8.5 million; and Iran, \$4 million.

Finally, Lt Col Mohamed Khouma Ould Haidalla, Mauritanian prime minister and acting president, pointed out that the organization was going to look for additional financing from Libya "at a more favorable time."

New High Commissioner

The communique issued at the closing of the sixth summit conference of the OMVS on 11 December, in Saint-Louis, stated that Mokhtar Ould Haiba (known as Cheibani Ould Haiba) had been appointed high commissioner of the OMVS with a four year mandate, replacing Amadou Aw, whose mandate expired on 17 December.

Mokhtar Ould Haiba, Mauritanian by nationality, with a degree in economics, is working on his doctorate which deals precisely with the OMVS. M. V. Haiba has already held a variety of positions in the Mauritanian government (planning, finances and rural development).

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FRANCOPHONE COMMUNITY'S FUTURE DISCUSSED

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS 28 Dec 79 pp 3656-3657

[Text] In our issue of 21 December (page 3601) we published the report of our special correspondent on the work of the Sixth General Conference of the ACCT [Cultural and Technical Cooperation Agency]. A qualified observer who was present in Lome has sent us some reflections on the future of the French speaking community.

From Niamey, where it was created in 1970, to Lome, where it has just held its Sixth General Conference, the ACCT has swept with its specific searchlight over the countries that constitute the French speaking entity, from Canada to Vietnam and From Belgium to Mauritius. The inside and outside light of each of them is not of the same intensity, and the need to harmonize them carries with it some disturbance in the multiform currents that unite the different members of the French speaking community. The Agency is the first, and for the present the only intergovernmental organization that groups together the states having in common the use of the French language, entirely or partially. To demonstrate the solidarity between them, many associations already exist, covering the various sectors of intellectual or economic activity, but until then there had been no initiatives of a private nature. Acting through the Niamey Convention of 20 March 1970, the founders of the francophone association decided to actualize the idea that the promotion and dissemination of national cultures are a necessary step in the mutual knowledge and friendship of the world's peoples.

Since the Agency was organized and developed it has questioned itself and its place in the French speaking structure. Those questions hung over the Lome General Conference and were not all resolved in the capital of Togo, because the participants found themselves in Paris for a new Extraordinary General Conference in March 1980.

At the root of the concept and operation of the Agency two different perspectives already stand out, according to which the approach is functional or political. In the former case it would be solely a cultural, scientific and technical cooperation organism; in the latter, a meeting place where political trends would be compared and eventually competitions of an economic nature would be demonstrated. It is this different vision of things that explains

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why opinion is generally found to be disconcerted in the face of the results of the work of the Lome General Conference.

Through the three basic problems facing the Agency one may objectively analyze the data of the Francophone community and outline the contour of his hopes.

The Agency Structures

The ambiguity in the conception is found in the organization of the general secretariat which is the administrative apparatus of the ACCT. To assure representation for the various geo-political groups of the Francophone body, and with the idea of arriving at a collegiality of decisions, it was decided to place beside the secretary general, who is elected by the member countries as a whole, four other secretaries general, to be elected under the same circumstances. This is how the Nigerian professor, Dankoulodo Dan Dicko, who was elected secretary general in 1973 and reelected in 1977, came to be joined with a Frenchman, a Belgian, a Canadian and a Tunisian. This formula for a pluralistic directorate not having been satisfactory, there was a plan to return to a logical and realistic organization in which the search for effectiveness would prevail over the subtleties of the political structure. The Africa which is concerned with having in the Agency a supplementary means of solving its immense social problems lined itself up with this operating theory, which was also approved by Cartesian France. On the opposite side, Belgium and Canada introduced the components of the national policy into the debates; in those countries the French speaking community is neither the only one nor even the majority, and the federal government in Ottawa, like the French speaking community of Belgium is looking, in a significant participation that is as prestigious as possible, for institutions for the Francophone affirmation of an identity that serves as argumentation, not only abroad, but in the interior of those countries.

Thus the dilemma before the members of the French speaking body will be that they have to find their solution in the Extraordinary General Conference in Paris. The advantage of the ACCT is that it offers a tribunal for open discussion, where everyone can bring his problems and see them taken into consideration by his peers.

The General Conference decided upon the Agency's budgets for 1980 and 1980, respectively, at 68,600,000 and 72,600,000 French francs. It approved the distribution of its activity programs among six sectors: dialog; training; education; publishing; culture and national languages; science; technology and development [as published]. In addition, it selected a number of specific actions that are to constitute a special development program financed by voluntary contributions.

There again, questions arose on what place should be reserved for actions favoring development in the body of the Agency's programs. Many African states are petitioners on this account and are hoping that with the Agency they will have available an additional source of financing. Although Canada is showing that it is disposed to commit itself that way, this is an implementation of a concept of aid to the Third World that is not very North American; North

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America believes everything can be settled with a few more dollars. With the Canadian Agency for International Development (ACDI), the federal government has at its disposal considerable means for bilateral intervention; it sees in the Agency an additional means of intervention, similar to the Commonwealth Fund, in which it participates, for Anglophone countries. There again we see the reappearance of a concern for equilibrium between two internal communities. Midway of these two positions France, Lebanon, Tunisia, Vietnam do not rule out the Agency participating in significant actions that figure in the national development plans of its members, but on the condition that they do not distract it from its fundamental purpose.

It must be seen that in fact a strictly cultural action cannot be separated from the general social and economic context. In that sense the Agency can make a positive contribution to everything that is located upstream from economic development: research, education, training. In addition, beyond the daily problems of the standard of living and per capita income, it may be good for all countries where problems of internal equilibrium come up--this is the case especially for the African countries--to have available an institution that provides the time and the means to reflect on the most remote, but also the most decisive objectives: the future of the culture, the language and the national identities, in a word, the individuality.

In that regard, it may be necessary to be wary of reducing the international dialog to the economic dimension alone; if this were to happen, the countries of the Third World and Africa in particular would be doomed to being just eternal petitioners, whereas in the dialog of cultures and the progress of science, they can make a positive contribution. One need only think of the multiplicity of research structures that use their climatic and pedagogic data.

The Agency's Place in the Francophone Political Body

The 26 member states, the two associate states (Cameroon and Laos) and the two participating governments (Quebec and New Brunswick) of the Agency represent some 240,000,000 people. In Lome the General Conference heard two observers sent by the kingdom of Morocco and the People's Republic of the Congo declare their countries' interest in the activities of the Francophone institutions. The representative of the Brazzaville government expressed the hope that the nature and interest of the Agency's activities would furnish its national authorities the necessary elements for determining their attitude toward this institution of the French speaking community.

Three new members were admitted at their own request: a bilingual state, the New Hebrides; Creole speaking state whose dominant language is English, Dominica; and a Portuguese language state, Guinea-Bissau.

These declarations, as well as the new participations, show the political success of the formula for dialog proposed by the Agency. And it is not impossible that this new formula will take on a new dimension when the Francophone community project is outlined; this project was mentioned in the Togolese



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capital, during the General Conference debates as well as on the fringes of the official work.

When all is said and done, the hopes placed in the French speaking community and its concrete manifestation as constituted by the ACCT, are more important than the minor problems of structure and effectiveness that were brought up at Lome. The whole French speaking body is proving its vitality and cohesion by agreeing that all the elements that go to make up the life of its members are to be reflected in its institutions, whether it be Canadian federalism, Belgian bilingualism, Lebanon's dual civilization or the African countries' political and economic evolution.

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DIAMA, MANANTALI DAM PROJECTS DESCRIBED

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 14 Dec 79 p 3458

[Text] Construction of the Diama and Manantali Dams, the two most important joint anti-drought projects for Mali, Mauritania and Senegal, is to start up in 1980, Amadou Aw, OMVS (Senegal River Development Organization) high commissioner, indicated to the AFP on 4 December. According to Mr Aw the last technical problems in realizing the dams were solved after a meeting in Dakar between the OMVS and the lenders of funds.

The problems chiefly concerned the Diama Dam, which is to be built in Senegalese territory, not far from the mouth of the river. The project has been reduced, the participants in the meeting not having retained for the future dam anything but its function of keeping the salt spit from rising and its irrigation function, construction of a 90-km dike and a 300-580-cubic-meter reservoir have been deferred. The cost of the project will be \$132,000,000, and the laying of the first stone was to take place on 12 December in the presence of the chiefs of state of the three member countries.

For the Manantali Dam, located in Mali, the only problem was to determine its dimension (height above the river bed). The lenders agreed with the OMVS to set it at 208 meters. The Manantali Dam will make possible the irrigation of 250,000 hectares of land and regulation of the river for navigation. The project provides for construction of a reservoir for 11,000,000,000 cubic meters of water. Its cost, without the hydro-electric improvements to be installed later for the production of 800,000,000 kilowatt hours, will be \$470,000,000 (taking into account the monetary erosion).

Mr Aw also indicated that the procedure for mobilizing the necessary funds for completing the dams (approximately \$600,000,000) is not yet completely settled. For the present the available funds amount to \$500,000,000 and \$100,000,000 remain to be found.

Several countries and organizations are participating in financing the project: Saudi Arabia (\$100,000,000); FRG (\$92,000,000); Kuwait (\$75,000,000); France (\$56,000,000); a group from the African Development Bank (\$52,000,000); Abou Dhabi (\$50,000,000); Italy (\$24,000,000); Islamic Development Bank

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[\$20,000,000); European Development Fund (\$19,000,000); Canada (\$8,500,000); and Iran (\$4,000,000).

The work on Diama can begin in the first half of next year, while work on Manantali is scheduled for the end of the same year.

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BRIEFS

CHAD REJOINING UDEAC--Representatives of the Nd'Jamena government clearly informed the chiefs of state of the member countries of UDEAC [Customs and Economic Union of Central Africa] (Cameroon, Central African Republic, the Congo and Gabon), at the UDEAC summit in Bangui on 11 and 12 December, that Chad has decided to rejoin UDEAC. However, no official decision was taken. They are waiting for the conclusions of the special committee in charge of studying the implications of such a return. [Text] [Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE in French 19 Dec 79 p 45] 8946

TANZANIAN SOLDIERS IN UGANDA--There might be more than 20,000 to 25,000 Tanzanian soldiers in Uganda. Reinforced by small contingents of Angolans and Mozambicans, their immediate task is to form the Ugandese army and police. It also seems that the Tanzanian authorities are hesitant to demobilize the men who, on their return to the country, would swell the ranks of the unemployed. [Text] [Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE in French 19 Dec 79 p 45] 8946

DACKO SEEKS MOROCCAN GUARD--David Dacko has asked the Rabat government to supply him with a personal guard. The Central African president is thus following the example of the Zairean chief of state, Mobutu Sese Seko, and the Gabonese chief of state, Omar Bongo, whose close guard is essentially made up of Moroccans. [Text] [Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE in French 19 Dec 79 p 45] 8946

DACKO THANKS SENEGALESE MAGISTRATE--A message of thanks was sent by President David Dacko to the Senegalese magistrate, Youssoupha Ndiaye, who directed the African observation mission in the Central African Republic during the Bokassa reign. The message was transmitted on 8 November by the Central African minister of Planning and Cooperation and the ambassador to Senegal. Youssoupha Ndiaye was invited at the same time to make a visit of friendship to Bangui, "when calm has completely returned." [Text] [Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE in French 19 Dec 79 p 46] 8946

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OIL MINISTER ANALYZES PRODUCTION, FOREIGN CONCESSIONS

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 14 Dec 79 pp 3478, 3479

[Article: "In the Oil Sector: Toward a Twofold Increase in Production Between Now and 1985"]

[Text] In an interview with ANGOP [ANGOLAN PRESS AGENCY], Jorge Morais, Angolan minister of petroleum, indicated that Angola's production should more than double in the next 5 years and reach 20 million tons a year. Crude oil production is slated to total some 9 million tons in 1979. Indeed, it is agreed that Angola will henceforth benefit from large investments, not only in the field of exploration but also as regards refining and petrochemicals.

Surveying the data and prospects for the next 5 years ("To go beyond 1985 would be no more than speculation"), the minister detailed the situation in effect in the three principal basins: Cabinda, the Congo basin, and the Cuanza basin.

Cabinda: The discovery of new "offshore" oilfields in Cabinda (Takula, Kambala, and Livuite), whose production will be added to those of Malongo, will make it possible in 1983 to exceed 150,000 barrels a day. Only one-third of Cabinda's reserves has been explored offshore where secondary recuperation projects, through the injection of gas, are planned.

But onshore explorations in Cabinda have also disclosed major potentials that are perhaps among the best prospects on land in Angola, Jorge Morais feels. Several companies are interested in exploration while SONANGOL [Angolan National Oil Company] is getting ready to begin its efforts in a few months.

Congo basin: The production of Block 2 should reach 30,000 barrels a day in 1980 and 50,000 barrels a day in the following year because of the discoveries made in this best-known block for which the concession was assigned to Texaco. In the minister's opinion, however, production will increase threefold or perhaps fourfold in 3 or 4 years thanks to the Cuntala, Etele, and Essungu fields. "Today, the gas reserves of the Lua

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and Etele fields are estimated at nearly 200 billion cubic meters," Jorge Morais asserted.

But the Congo basin also has large potentials onshore, he added, specifying that authorized production in this field is 37,000 barrels a day.

Thanks to projects which are slated to get under way immediately for secondary recuperation (gas and water injection at Quiguila and water injection at Pangala), 80,000 barrels could be attained in the first quarter of 1980.

Cuanza basin: This basin, the oldest and the best known, presently produces 10,000 barrels a day and work is now in progress to maintain this output for 3 or 4 more years, the minister told ANGOP.

While Angola is known as an oil-producing country its facilities in that field are new, embryonic, and beset by "structural defects," the minister noted. The principal goal is thus "to endow the country with structures able to restore its oil-producing potentials, maximize revenues, but also contribute to a higher standard of living for Angolans" as well as to the "materialization of the advent of socialism."

Adoption of New Types of Agreements

Pursuing his interview, the Angolan Minister of Petroleum indicated that the decision taken by the Angolan authorities to grant only limited concessions to the oil-producing companies meets a need to maximize state revenues rapidly.

The concession of offshore blocks of 2,000 square km has as its fundamental goal to rapidly improve the country's potentials so that it may benefit from revenues when it needs them and not as a function of planning by foreign companies, Jorge Morais said in essence.

The government, owner and concessionaire of all equipment bought or unloaded in an Angolan port, wishes, through the national SONANGOL company, to remain the decision-making center and beneficiary of the oil finds.

According to the terms of the agreements recently drawn up and signed by Angola, the foreign company itself invests in concessions. "If it discovers nothing it pulls back and for it this is a risk that it has to take," the minister said.

In the case that oil is discovered production is divided into two parts one of which goes to the entrepreneur who thus recoups his investment while the other is paid into the coffers of the Angolan state. "The sharing can begin on a basis of 70 for one and 30 for the other, that is, the foreign entrepreneur, but as production increases Angola's share rises to reach 95 percent," Minister Morais continued.

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Furthermore, Angola has included in newly signed contracts a clause that foreign companies accept only with reticence and which, according to some Angolan sources, is completely new. The clause states that "to avoid that price increases should benefit only the companies and not the state," a limited price will be set so that Angola may profit from these increases first, the company having to limit itself "to a fair compensation for its work." All companies wishing to operate in Angola will have to accept this principle, the minister added.

Three agreements were signed this year between Angola and Texaco, Total, and ELF-Aquitaine [Gasoline and Lubricants Company of France-Aquitaine]. No other agreement will be signed before 1980 despite "the desire expressed by some companies," the minister said. Exxon, British Petroleum, and Mobil Oil Company are included among the latter, it is said in Luanda.

As regards marketing, Angola is casting an attentive eye on the Libyan example about which the Minister of Petroleum declared that "whoever wishes to purchase our oil must invest in our country." Also, "this is one way to wrest our country from underdevelopment by using oil," Jorge Morais stressed.

For him the future is characterized by an increasingly greater imbalance between supply and demand, with short periods of stabilization in what is a "sellers' market."

The setting of a price by oil-producing countries, whether they are members of OPEC or not (Angola is not a member), is a way of "defending oneself against the inflation exported by the West and the depreciation of the dollar." Furthermore, "this is an initiative which the multinational corporations are losing and is becoming a privilege of the oil-producing countries," Minister Jorge Morais concluded.

Let us note that Angola has divided its coastal area into 12 concessions. The Gulf Oil Corporation (United States), PETRANGOL [Angola Petroleum Company] (with Belgian and Angolan capital), Texaco (United States), and Total and ELF (French companies) have signed agreements with Angola. Gulf Oil and PETRANGOL started to produce oil many years ago, the American company alone extracting more than 100,000 barrels a day in the Cabinda enclave.

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ANGOLA

INCREASED ECONOMIC TIES WITH BRAZIL

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 21 Dec 79  
p 3639

Text Observers in Luanda think that Angola and Brazil have established such economic ties, that the latter is tending to become one of Angola's main suppliers.

Although it is difficult to give an exact figure on the trade between the two countries, it seems, in fact, that Brazil has sold more than \$350 million to Angola in the form of services spread out over several years or directly consumable food-stuffs.

Thus the state stores "people's stores" are packed with Brazilian products, up to "O Mosteiro monastery" wine, while Brazilian firms sometimes sign important contracts with Angolan authorities. Thus the observers notice that the Sisal Company has won a contract for \$210 million which commissions it to remodel the largest hotels in Luanda and a few others in the provinces.

Another contract which expires at the end of December requires Brazil to continuously supply food products for "people's stores." This contract amounts to \$45 million.

According to some sources, the visit of the Angolan Minister of Domestic Trade, Carlos Alberto Van Dunhem, who has just gone to Brazil, should allow the renewal of this contract.

Finally, a Brazilian company has sold Angola 100 railroad cars. They were assembled completely at Luanda and Lubango, in plants which remained intact, with the aid of Angolan workers, supervised by Brazilian technicians.

In addition, a Brazilian shipyard is now building fishing boats for Angola, whose estimated cost is \$30 million.



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AFP writes Angola only began its "honeymoon" with Brazil in early 1979. The same language, Portuguese, traditions, and sometimes people of the same stock--many Angolans were carried to Brazil, especially in the northeastern region, during the period of slavery--do not explain this rapprochement completely.

A technology which is well adapted to African conditions, a desire for an economic overture towards the Third World, which is a choice market for their products, and finally the friendly welcome which Angola reserves for their fellow countrymen also are causing Brazilian industrialists to gravitate towards this country.

It is true that Brazil was one of the first western countries to recognize the People's Republic of Angola. And since the beginning of 1975, Brazil opened a "special representation" in Luanda, in addition to its consulate. This representation became a completely separate embassy on 11 November of the same year, the date of independence.

Finally Brazil had also opened a \$50 million "line of credit" for Angola in 1976, which was to be increased by \$30 million 2 years later.

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ANGOLA

FRENCH POSITION, WISH FOR EXPANDED ECONOMIC RELATIONS DESCRIBED

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 14 Dec 79 p 3478

[Article: "Without Reneging on Its Marxist-Leninist Options Angola Is Tightening Its Economic Links with the West"]

[Excerpts] The French Foreign Trade Center [CFCE] took the initiative to organize, on 7 December 1979, a half-day informational meeting on the People's Republic of Angola in which Jacques Rigaud, France's commercial attache in Luanda, J. J. Schwab, manager of the textiles department of Creusot-Loire Enterprises, and G. Andreoli, representative of the National Bank of Paris, participated. There were many representatives from the private and public sectors who attended that meeting, thereby evidencing a thirst for information which is explained by the fact that the economic prospects of the young republic and the possibilities offered to French firms are little known.

Yet France--precisely thanks to the economic development which it has instituted, which is much better supplied in terms of skills and personnel than the analogous services of other Western countries, and which is playing an irreplaceable assistance role--seems much less short of informational material on Angola than most of its European neighbors, undoubtedly with the exception of Portugal which can make comparisons or extrapolations on the basis of its files from the colonial period kept by Lisbon. It is within this framework that it is necessary to review the communications made to the CFCE on 7 December 1979, which we have the intention to analyze briefly here, even to complete with the help of our own information.

Governed by young leaders (the average age is in the order of 32 to 35 years), Angola today is still experiencing the sequels of a war of liberation followed by internal conflict which is not over.

These difficulties result in the fact that the economic evolution of Angola, despite all the potentials of that country, has been disappointing these last few years. The only two sectors which are doing well, after a drop that it was possible to make up, are those of oil and diamonds. The

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agricultural sector saw a distinct decline (coffee, cotton, sugar, corn, and vegetable oils). Industry has not retrieved its former level, to such a point that there is surplus hydroelectric production in the country.

Even though 1978 was decreed as the "Year of Agriculture," Angola is presently obliged to import the major portion of the food items consumed by its population of 6 million.

The products and equipment--and here it is not only agriculture that is involved--were of essentially Western origin before independence (from the United States or Europe by way of Portuguese businesses). After independence the juxtaposition or replacement of these products and equipment with supplies from the East has not always been auspicious. The Angolan leaders, without denying in any way their socialist options, have evidenced pragmatism and, for about a year now, have made a certain number of economic openings to the West to which it is not at all impossible that the Cubans and Soviets should have given their blessing (for their interest is obviously to be able to project to the rest of the world the image of an Angola which is "doing well" rather than of an Angola which is "doing badly").

The various economic missions (oil, banking, and so on) undertaken by Angolan leaders or senior Angolan officials in the Western countries these past few months are striving to open up the situation. The possibility of establishing joint companies should make it possible to absorb Western technology and seems in Luanda the best way to train cadres (1979 is the "Year of Cadres Training"). Angola is purchasing transportation equipment (Leyland, Volvo, Berliet), airplanes, and helicopters to overcome the difficulties of its internal transportation. It ordered the completion by Creusot-Loire of the Africa-Textil [African Textile Company] plant in Benguela whose construction, begun before independence, had not been completed.

What can France do in this context? The flow of its exports has been very irregular these past few years. Dropping after independence, it rose in 1977 but fell again in 1978 (the Kolwezi affair). It was reactivated this year [1979]. These exports represented 162 million French francs in 1977 and 126 million in 1978. In 1979 French export estimates envision 180 million francs and in 1980, 500 million francs (that is, an order of magnitude close to that of French sales to Congo or Zaire.) French imports of Angolan products have been low and have tended to drop. The rate of coverage [for France] is very high (more than 900 percent for the first half of 1979). The import-to-export imbalance threatens to raise problems.

France's advantages in Angola are of various kinds: There is no real language barrier; French products are familiar, even in the field of capital goods; in the operations that it has effected with Angola France has not had setbacks; it can continue to benefit from the absence of some of its competitors (the United States does not have a diplomatic

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representative in Luanda, the Federal Republic of Germany has just now gotten one, while Britain is embarrassed by the Rhodesian affair). The air link established by the UTA [Air Transportation Union--France] is of crucial importance. Finally, last but not least, the assistance offered by the commercial section of the French embassy (Edificio Presidente, Largo 4 de Fevereiro, 3-4, Sala 441, CP 5609, Luanda; telephone 72-458 and 72-967; telex, Comatta 3327 AN; cable address, Comatta) is priceless. All the businessmen who have been to Angola in the past few years can testify to it if there were any need.

For the future it would be desirable that the tightening of the bonds between Angola and France be concretized by the visit to Luanda of a top-level French official similar to what Belgium has done with the trip of Henri Simonet [minister of foreign affairs].

To conclude, let us recall a certain number of practical facts that it is appropriate to know in the realm of business: The kindness of Angolans is such that they often say "yes" in cases where a Frenchman would say "maybe," "yes, but," or even "no, but." The Angolan interlocutor is not always the one who decides, the definitive stage of agreements being an examination by a committee. In the field of imports the National Bank of Angola always has an input. For 1980 it is estimated that an import plan will not only be drawn up but also made public.

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## ANGOLA

## BRIEFS

GOVERNMENT APPOINTMENTS DETAILED--A communique published by the offices of the Presidency of the Republic reports appointments within the framework of a reorganization. Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the RPA [Angolan People's Republic] appointed as his staff chief Asuncao Afonso de Sousa dos Anjos, who was staff chief of the Ministry of Planning until now. On the other hand, the communique indicates that the Angolan Ambassador to the Soviet Union, Carlos Antonio Fernandes is to become secretary of foreign affairs in this new cabinet. Finally Julio Guilherme Guerra has been appointed chief of the Protocol Department; Domingos Van Dunem held this post until now. Jaime Madalena and Fernando Costa Andrade "Ndunduma" will at present be respectively secretary for legal affairs and information secretary. The communique does not indicate the future position of the former secretary of President Jose Agostinho Neto. /Text/ /Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 21 Dec 79 p 3638/ 8490

PRESSURES ON BRAZIL TRADE--The trip to Brazil at the end of November, beginning of December of Carlos Alberto Van Dunham, minister of home trade, which we mentioned above, was shrouded in contradictory reports about the pressures which had allegedly been exercised on Angola to avoid a rapprochement with Brazil. According to the Brazilian newspaper O ESTADO DO SAO PAULO of 4 December, which quoted "sources close" to the Brazilian minister of foreign affairs, these pressures reportedly came from the Soviet Union and Cuba. The day before, the Angolan minister had in fact referred to this problem of "pressures" but had refused to pinpoint their origin, limiting himself to saying that they came from various countries and "many sides." On 5 December, Carlos Alberto Van Dunham declared that no socialist country had pressured the Angolan government to avoid a rapprochement with Brazil. On the same day, O ESTADO DO SAO PAULO reported Van Dunham's denial and indicated that the pressures involved reportedly came from western enterprises, especially from the United States, Switzerland and Denmark which are complaining about the competition of Brazilian firms in Angola, particularly in the hotel business and foodstuffs /Text/ /Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 21 Dec 79 p 3639/ 8490

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COUNTRY SECTION

BENIN

INTERNAL INFIGHTING DESCRIBED

Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE in French 19 Dec 79 p 44

[Article by Francois Soudan: "Tallyho On The Leftists;" passages enclosed in slantlines printed in italics]

[Text] While the revolution is becoming "institutionalized," the infighting among clans becomes worse.

The first general election to take place in Benin since the October 1972 coup, occurred on Tuesday 20. Running on a single ticket, the 336 people's commissioners (members of the future National Revolutionary Assembly) were elected without any surprise: the red ballots ("yes") accounted for 97.5 percent of the votes; abstentions were negligible. For all that, must we conclude with Martin Dohou Azonhiho, minister of national orientation who is often represented as the regime's ideologist, that /"Making history, the people expressed their opinion broad-mindedly and freely"/? Actually, in Benin as elsewhere, the high rate of electoral participation is a sort of illusion. The mobilization of "popular masses" is effective only on election day.

To be sure, the theme of the first regular PRPB (People's Revolutionary Party of Benin) congress which was held from 13 to 19 November centered on "criticism" and "self-criticism." However, beyond the statements of purpose, the crises which divide intellectuals, civil servants, military, students and unionists look very much like the fights among political factions and conflicts among clans.

In this respect, the speech delivered on Tuesday 13 November, the Congress' opening day, by Matthieu Kerekou is significant. It was a lengthy and virulent diatribe during which the "great comrade-in-arms," backed by Mao and Lenin, attacked the /"infantile opportunists, adventuristic divisionists and the leftists who infiltrated our ranks."/

What heartbreaks are hidden behind the violent words? When Matthieu Kerekou and his friends assumed power, most of the civilians sided with them. At least, the civilians who "counted," the peasant masses being, then as now, kept away from all decisions. However, the first quarrels appeared very early: the bourgeoisie

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"dropped" Kerekou and even tried to overthrow him; the young people and the unionists turned to Captain Michel Aikpe, minister of the interior, who was shot down in 1975. The honeymoon was over. Only a nucleus of pro-Soviet orthodox Marxists-Leninists--those who are called /"leaguers"/ (most of them old-time members of the National League of Patriotic Youth, an organization created in 1968)--continued to support the military team. This nucleus which represents the interests of a well-defined and, in Benin, overcrowded social class made up of the radicalized low- and middle-income civil servants, imparted its current course to domestic policy: a centralism based on the concept of a state-controlled revolution.

However, the "rank and file masses" being definitely smaller, the authorities had to "open" the debate slightly; promise, in a vague future, to let civilians have a hand in government; and organize elections. These represents so many "openings" which young "FUDists" (regrouped within the United Democratic Front, FUD, prior to 1975) used to their advantage. These FUDists were secondary school and university students and the unemployed who had supported Michel Aikpe whose harum-scarum activism and anarchist unionism had captivated them. Their program: the revolution must be carried out by the rank and file, not the higher-ups; peasant soviets must be increased at village levels; and the leadership must be kept away from the pragmatist elements whom they call /"rightist,"/ like Colonel Barthelemy Ohouens, minister of industry and handicrafts, or Amidou Baba-Moussa, governor of the Beninese Development Bank (BBD) and close adviser of Matthieu Kerekou.

As acknowledged by Kerekou himself during the congress, they succeeded in controlling many basic organizations, particularly the CDRs (Committees for the Defense of the Revolution) and GARs (Revolutionary Action Groups). A more serious request is their insistant demand that the military leave power. Whence, undoubtedly, Matthieu Kerekou's violent reaction during his inaugural speech (they are the ones whom the chief of state called /"infantile leftists"/); whence, also, the "extended-hand" policy which led Beninese leaders to increase the number of Political Bureau members from 7 to 13, with the military now in the minority.

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GAMBIA

BADEA APPROVES AIRPORT EXPANSION LOAN

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 14 Dec 79 p 3460

[Text] At the close of its 15th session held on 1-2 December in Khartoum, the Arab Bank for African Economic Development (BADEA) approved a loan of \$5.2 million to Gambia for expansion of the Yundum airport. The BADEA loan, repayable over a period of 15 years at an annual interest rate of 5 percent and with a 2-year period of grace, is to cover 40 percent of the total cost of the project, to which financial aid has already been given by: the Saudi Fund (\$1.9 million), the Abu Dhabi Fund (\$1.5 million), the Special OPEC Fund (\$1.3 million), Great Britain (\$1 million) and the Gambian Government (\$1.34 million).

Gambia has no air transport company, but it does have an international airport at Yundum, built in order to prevent the country from having to depend on the Dakar airport, inasmuch as it is practically enclosed by Senegalese territory. The facilities at the Yundum airport have turned out to be inadequate due to the pressure of growing traffic (5 percent yearly over the first 3 years), mainly resulting from expansion of the tourist industry. It was within this framework that the government adopted a program of development and modernization of the airport, a program divided into phases.

The current project, representing the third phase of the program, consists of the following work: expansion of the runway (from 2,850 to 3,600 meters) and accessways, the supplying of navigation equipment and the construction of buildings and other facilities.

These modifications will enable the Yundum airport to accommodate practically all types of planes and to serve as a technical stop for long runs between Africa and the United States and Europe and South America, which will result in considerable revenue. In addition, it is thought that opening the airport to large cargo planes will substantially stimulate tourist travel, particularly from the United States, and consequently, activities directly or indirectly linked to tourism, jobs, and foreign exchange resources. Estimates of the project's internal profitability rate are on the order of 17 percent.

Work is under the supervision of the Ministry of Public Works and should be completed in about 8 months.

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GUINEA

PROTEST AGAINST FRENCH ALLEGATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

Paris AFRIQUE-ASIE in French 10 Dec 79 p 38

[Excerpts] Following a number of articles that appeared in the French press and several African newspapers telling of the arrest in Conakry, between 16 and 21 August, of Guineans who had returned to their country, the Association of Guinean Nationals in France (ARGF) published a formal denial and a vehement protest.

"In March 1977," the ARGF states, "Guinea invited all of its sons residing outside the country to return, at the same time pardoning those who had sinned."

"The new defamation campaign alunched against Guinea by various small groups, is aimed on the one hand at rechallenging the Guinean policy of openness and cooperation, on the other hand at creating a climate of fear in the Guinean community abroad. It is well understood that the principal objective pursued by these enemies unrelentingly is the overthrow of the progressive Guinean regime, which is still a bone caught in the throat of international imperialism, which has not been able to swallow it."

After formally denying "as devoid of any foundation" the news denounced above, the Association concludes: "Many Guineans have returned to their country and been very happy about it. Many others are preparing to return; no campaign of brainwashing and intimidation will stop this trend, which is now irreversible. Too bad about ~~those~~ who feel offended by such an atmosphere of detente."

For its part the Guinean Press Agency protested vigorously in three responses to the AFP, which had reproduced these detractors' accusations against the new campaign aimed at creating obstacles to the projected official visit of President Ahmed Sekou Toure to Paris.

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GUINEA

AYEKOYE ALUMINUM, KONKOURE DAM PROJECTS GIVEN PRIORITY

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 14 Dec 79 p 3461

[Text] Guinea is going to give priority to its Ayekoye Aluminum project and wants to accelerate completion of the Konkoure hydro-electric dam, as indicated by a communique broadcast by Radio Conakry after a meeting of the Politburo of the Democratic Party of Guinea.

The Ayekoye project, which includes Guinea and several Arab partners, is to make possible exploitation of a deposit of 500,000,000 tons of bauxite in northwest Guinea, with a view to production of 1,200,000 tons of alumina and secondly, 150,000 tons of aluminum per year.

This production will require a large amount of energy, which Guinea hopes to find with the building of the Konkoure hydro-electric dam. For this reason, both projects--Ayekoye and Konkoure--are considered integrated projects in Conakry.

The Konkoure River complex is to include two dams, at Souapiti and Amaria. Konkoure's file was filed as far as the French were concerned at the time of Guinea's independence. Studies done by the USSR in 1965 and then by Italy had no results. The question was on the agenda for the Giscard d'Estaing-Sekou Toure talks when the French president visited Guinea in December 1978. On 3 March 1979 Guinea entrusted the EDF [French Electric Company] with a new study.

The results of that study, which was completed in July, would be encouraging, considering the present price of energy, because the financing estimate it contains does not exceed \$1,000,000,000; this sum is considered the standard beyond which some lenders of funds might have been reluctant. For that price it will be possible to produce more than double the quantity of energy provided for by the 1958 plan (300 mw [megawatts]), because of the evolution of technology.

Among the Arab countries interested in the combined Ayekoye-Konkoure projects (which will be added to the deposits already being exploited), two of them, Saudi Arabia and Libya, have already promised first payments of \$100,000,000 and \$50,000,000 respectively.

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GUINEA

BRIEFS

NEW ARCHBISHOP--The Guinean Catholic Church, which has only 50,000 faithful out of the country's 5,000,000 inhabitants, has a new archbishop in Conakry in the person of Monsignor Robert Sarah, who was enthroned on 8 December before many members of the Guinean government. Monsignor Robert Sarah, who is 34, studied in Guinea, in France, in Senegal, in Rome and in Jerusalem. Ordained to the priesthood on 20 July 1969, he was a teacher and parish priest in Conakry before being appointed last 23 August to the post of archbishop by Pope John Paul II. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 14 Dec 79 p 3461] 8946

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MALI

BRIEFS

BADEA ROAD CONSTRUCTION LOAN--The Arab Bank for African Economic Development (BADEA) on 2 December granted \$10,000,000 in financial aid to Mali, to enable it to finance the development of an important branch of the Trans-Saharan Road, some 556 km. The Trans-Saharan Road is one of the five important communications projects identified by the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and is considered to be the backbone of the African international road system. The section financed by BADEA in Mali concerns the Gao-Mopti connection by way of Sevare. The total cost of the work is \$78,600,000. [Excerpts] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 14 Dec 79 p 3461] 8946

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MOZAMBIQUE

BRIEFS

ECONOMIC COOPERATION WITH JAPAN--Japan signed an economic cooperation agreement with the People's Republic of Mozambique on 29 November. The signing took place at the end of the 6 day visit to Mozambique of a Japanese delegation led by the assistant director of the food division of the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing, Kimio Tamai. The latter, who had conversations with the Mozambican director for international cooperation, Antonio Matos and officials of the Ministry of Planning and Foreign Trade also approved an agreement concluded last September between Japan and Mozambique regarding the delivery of 1,695 tons of rice.  
/Text/ /Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French  
21 Dec 79 p 3632/ 8490

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NAMIBIA

FRANCE DISCOURAGES INVESTMENTS IN NAMIBIA

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 7 Dec 79 p 3412

[Text] In reply to an inquiry addressed in writing by Mr Alain Vivien, PS [Socialist Party] deputy, regarding the "activities pursued by French interests, whether private, public, or under the control of the Ministry of Industry," Mr Jean Francois-Poncet, minister of foreign affairs, makes this statement, among others, in reply (JOURNAL OFFICIEL [Official Journal], National Assembly debates of 10 November 1979):

"The steps taken by the government are strict and precise: the 'Compagnie francaise d'assurance pour le commerce exterieur' [French Insurance Company for Foreign Trade] refuses to guarantee operations regarding Namibia, and applications for licenses to invest in that territory are being refused.

"These steps, whose scope and effectiveness cannot be denied, clearly show the government's determination not to promote French business activities in Namibia in any way until that territory gains its independence under conditions acceptable on an international level.

"The government has indeed spoken in favor of Namibia's accession to independence through free elections under UN supervision and control in accordance with resolution No 385 adopted by the Security Council on 30 January 1976. On that basis, France, together with four other nations (United States, United Kingdom, the FRG and Canada), makes an active contribution to the preparation for a settlement of the Namibian issue."

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NAMIBIA

OPPOSITION VOICED TO EXPORTS OF ROESSING URANIUM

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 14 Dec 79 p 3477

[Text] The extreme-left Parisian daily LIBERATION recently waged a campaign against western companies mining uranium in Roessing, Namibia.

The daily asserts that the Roessing mining is done by companies originating in Great Britain, Canada, South Africa and France. The company operating on France's behalf is Minatome, whose capital is owned by Pechiney-Ugine-Kuhlman (50 percent) and by Compagnie francaise des petroles (50 percent). Company headquarters confirms that Minatome is a 10 percent participant in Roessing mining, where annual production is 5,000 tons of uranium (France's annual production: 3,400 tons).

Roessing uranium, LIBERATION also reported, is routed to France by UTA airlines to a reprocessing plant located near Narbonne, and then sold to the FRG, the Netherlands, Great Britain and France (to Electricite de France, among others).

That exportation, the daily points out, is contrary to the UN recommendation of 24 September 1974 declaring in particular, that "no organized entity may mine [...] or export any natural resource located within Namibia's territorial boundaries."

Following that campaign, the UTA management reported that the contract according to which the company had been transporting uranium from Namibia to France had been terminated, and that the product mined in Roessing would henceforth be shipped by sea.

The AFP then announced that the "Compagnie maritime des chargeurs reunis" [Maritime Company of United Carriers] was already transporting Roessing uranium from Walvis Bay harbor.

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NIGER

BRIEFS

INCREASED EFFORT IN EDUCATION--Niger President Seyni Kountche, who has just completed a tour of the interior lasting several days, spoke on 9 December and announced an increased effort in the field of education in order to accelerate the country's development and make school "truly profitable for everyone." Having noted in the course of his visits the difficulties faced by provincial schools (lack of teachers), President Kountche said that priority will be given to teacher training. For this purpose, a particular effort will be made on behalf of the University of Niamey's Liberal Arts School, the second phase of whose construction will begin in a few days, "no matter what the cost." The Niger Government has also decided to set up a center of pedagogy and work will begin in 1980. Finally, speaking about the introduction of national languages into education, Colonel Kountche said that as long as the country does not have teachers in the field, it will be useless to make any reforms in that direction. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 14 Dec 79 p 3463] 11,464

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RHODESIA

ECONOMY SEEN AS IMPROVING, BECOMING MORE COMPETITIVE

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 28 Dec 79 p 3693

[Article: "The Rhodesian Economy at the Close of 1979"]

[Text] Reports from the REUTER news agency recently noted that businessmen in Salisbury are optimistic and project in 1980, for the first time since 1974, a growth in the GNP [Gross National Product] expressed in real terms.

The economic analysis departments of local banks expect, especially thanks to agricultural yields, a growth of 15 to 20 percent in the GDP [Gross Domestic Product] at market prices as against annual inflation which is anticipated to hit 14 percent in 1980 compared to 12 percent in 1979.

According to the Standard Bank, Rhodesian exports reportedly totaled \$R [Rhodesian dollars] 600 million in 1979 whereas imports represented \$R 420 million (one Rhodesian dollar equals 6.21 French francs).

In the bank's opinion the lifting of sanctions will entail a growth of from 15 to 20 percent in the value of Rhodesian exports. It similarly expects a rise of at least 5 percent in the cost of imports, taking into account the higher price of oil products. But this hike should not prevent a rise of some \$R 150 million in revenues originating from foreign trade. A liberalization of imports (controlled by the public authorities) would thus be possible. It would benefit primarily capital equipment.

The Standard Bank also notes that even a growth rate of between 3 and 4 percent in 1980 will not allow making up for the general drop in the standard of living since 1974, a downslide following that of the Gross National Product. A rise of from 5 to 8 percent would be necessary in 1981 to return to the 1974 level.

Blocked Assets

The Bank of England gave the authorization in mid-December 1979 to repatriate to Rhodesia all the funds blocked in Britain since 1965 (pensions, dividends, wages, and so on).

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In contrast, the Rhodesian Government, supported incidentally by local economists, refused to allow the funds blocked in Rhodesia (made up especially of accumulated dividends of nonresidential stockholders) from being freely repatriated.

These funds are estimated to total at least \$R 250 million, not to speak of amounts due on account of loans granted to the government before 1965 (notably, for the Kariba dam), which total \$R150 million.

It is obvious that the immediate repatriation of these funds would burden considerably the operation of Rhodesian finances, heavily indebted by the war. A spokesman of the Ministry of Finance in Salisbury declared recently that the outflows of blocked capital would be authorized as soon as the consolidated of the Rhodesian balance of payments would allow it.

Such a development as well as that which is envisioned for the national economy naturally depends on the stabilization of Rhodesian political life. The danger which can arise as soon as the independence of Zimbabwe occurs is twofold: A civil war or radicalization leading to major economic upsets.

#### South Africa Expects a Reinforcement of Its Role As Intermediary

"Nearly all Rhodesian trade will have to use the ports, roads, and railroads of South Africa, including the raw materials and food items exported by Rhodesia and the manufactured products imported from the United States, Europe, and Japan, the director general of SAFTO [South African Foreign Trade Organization], Piet Kieser, noted on 21 December 1979. "This will be reflected by increased economic activities in South Africa, substantial revenues, and new jobs," he added.

The South African ports on the Indian Ocean (Durban, Richards Bay, Port Elizabeth, and East London) or on the Atlantic (Cape Town, Saldanha Bay), specially equipped for the traffic of ore boats and container vessels, are in a position to handle without difficulty the increased volume of Rhodesian trade transiting in the two directions.

But as AFP notes, there is the other side of the coin: The fact that Rhodesia will become a serious competitor of South Africa once again, all the more so as 14 years of sanctions have endowed Rhodesia with an often highly competitive industry, notably in the field of furniture, textiles, leather, footwear, and even electronics.

Additionally, South Africa runs the risk of losing to Rhodesia the important sales markets of iron-chrome that it had negotiated with the stainless steel industry of the United States.

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Finally, there are continuing unknowns: What will be the rate of exchange between the South African rand and the Rhodesian dollar in the future? Until now it has been artificially maintained at 1.20 South African rand per Rhodesian dollar (the latter thus being worth nearly U.S. \$1.5).

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SENEGAL

EIB LOAN FOR STUDY OF DEVELOPMENT OF FALEME IRON ORE

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 14 Dec 79 p 3459

[Text] Within the framework of the first Lome Convention, the European Investment Bank (EIB) has loaned Senegal 975,000 accounting units (over 280 million CFA francs) for a preparatory study aimed at the future development of the Faleme iron ore deposits, according to a 4 December bulletin from the Bank. This financing takes the form of a conditional loan on risk-bearing capital provided by the Lome Convention and handled by the EIB as the agent of the European Community. The loan will not be repaid until a decision on definite development is made.

The borrower is the Republic of Senegal, which will turn the funds over to the consulting firm MIFERSO (Eastern Senegal Iron Mines), set up in 1975 with, among its shareholders, the government and the Geological and Mineral Prospecting Office (BRGM), a French public establishment in charge of technical management.

The feasibility study financed by this conditional loan is for the purpose of certifying the available quantities of completely oxidized ores with a high iron content (63 to 64 percent), whose presence was revealed by previous studies. However, it was not determined whether the size of the deposits would make their future development profitable. The feasibility study will also provide a more thorough knowledge of the characteristics of these ores and the morphology of the deposits.

Results should be known by September 1980 at the latest. If they are conclusive, a final feasibility study will then be undertaken before development. Potential production is an estimated 12 million tons of ore per year for 20 to 30 years, which would represent a considerable asset for the economic development of Senegal.

The Reconstruction Credit Bank, the Central Fund for Economic Cooperation and the Aid and Cooperation Fund (FAC) have already granted financing for previous studies of these deposits.

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SENEGAL

BRIEFS

CANADIAN MINISTER'S VISIT--Martial Asselin, Canadian minister in charge of the Canadian International Development Agency (ACDI), made an official visit to Senegal from 6 to 9 December. Asselin was received by President Sédar Senghor and Senegalese Prime Minister Abdou Diouf. He had previously met with Ousmane Seck, Senegalese minister of finance and economic affairs, and visited the Center for the Study of Information Sciences and Techniques (CESTI), a project financed by Canada in cooperation with France. The facility trains journalists. Canadian aid to CESTI amounts to \$11 million. The Canadian minister also visited a project financed by \$4.9 million from the ACDI: the construction and equipping of a pediatrics ward of the University Hospital Center in Fann. The center will open in February 1980 and will have 120 beds. Asselin announced Canada's contribution of 3,325,000,000 CFA francs to the Thies Polytechnical School. The contribution will make it possible to achieve Senegalization of the school by 1989. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 14 Dec 79 p 3459] 11,464

CANADIAN-SENEGALESE BILATERAL COMMISSION--Canada and Senegal have set up a bilateral commission designed to promote relations between the two countries in all fields of mutual interest. A statement of intentions to establish the commission was signed in Dakar on 7 December by Martial Asselin and Moustapha Niasse, Senegalese minister of foreign affairs. The commission will serve as a framework for reflecting on the state of relations between Senegal and Canada and will determine general orientations in order to give a new boost to bilateral relations. It will have the task of following up projects aimed at bringing about cooperation between the two countries. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 14 Dec 79 p 3459] 11,464

ECONOMIC RECOVERY PLAN--At the 3 December Cabinet meeting, Ousmane Seck, Senegalese minister of finance and economic affairs, presented a report on the medium-range plan for Senegal's economic and financial recovery. This plan is characterized by a far-reaching economic and financial reorganization aimed at restoring fundamental financial balances and relaunching public investment, which in turn creates jobs. It places emphasis on finances and the public debt, the public investment program, the parapublic sector, the wage and price policy, the mobilization of savings, the foreign

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trade policy, money and credit. Abdou Diouf, prime minister of Senegal, will present the economic recovery plan before the National Assembly on 19 December. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 14 Dec 79 p 3459] 11,464

LOANS FOR TUNA FISHING--On 7 December, Djibril Sene, Senegalese minister of development, announced to the National Assembly the establishment of a Maritime Credit Bank in cooperation with other countries. This measure will make it possible for local shipowners to purchase equipment, particularly for tuna fishing. In answer to an oral question from Mr Wade concerning the Senegalese Fishing Equipment Company (SOSAP), Minister Sene recalled that in 1948, large schools of tuna were discovered in Senegal's territorial waters. In 1962, the Senegalese Government felt the need to be present in the shipowners' sector in order to supply local canneries. SOSAP was then set up with an initial capital of 100 million CFA francs, which sum was increased to 300 million in 1969. The government remained the main shareholder (75 percent). The overall service exceeded 4 billion CFA francs. In 1974, SOSAP had 25 ships (9 built in France; 5 in the Federal Republic of Germany and 10 in the USSR). It was reported that the deficit that year amounted to hundreds of millions of CFA francs. In order to rehabilitate SOSAP, a new director was appointed. Two years later, in August 1976, SOSAP was dissolved and nearly 700 employees lost their jobs. Nearly the entire fleet was brought to a standstill and Senegalese territorial waters were left to foreign fishing boats. The amount of the liabilities is 6,191,000,000 CFA francs. In order to discharge these liabilities, the government bought all the debts. Theoretically, the state will lose some 4,327,000,000 or even 8 billion CFA francs. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 14 Dec 79 p 3460] 11,464

COOPERATION WITH GERMANY--The Senegalese Parliament has authorized the confirmation of an economic and technical cooperation agreement signed by the Federal Republic of Germany and Senegal in May 1977. This agreement, which replaces one concluded between the two countries in June 1961, provides for West German assistance in the field of education and the completion of the instruction, specialization and advanced training of upper-level Senegalese personnel and the supplying of research and training material and equipment. The commission's report underlines the importance, effectiveness and quality of West German cooperation with Senegal. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 14 Dec 79 p 3460] 11,464

SPANISH COOPERATION AGREEMENTS--On 6 December, Spain and Senegal signed two agreements: one concerning fishing and the other maritime transport. The fishing agreement enables ships flying the Spanish flag to fish in Senegalese waters, provided that Spain pays financial compensation to Senegal set at 2.3 billion CFA francs. The second Spanish-Senegalese agreement organizes maritime transport between the two countries following the maritime code of conduct setting the rule of 40/40/20 (40 percent of the cargo to each of the two countries and the rest for third nations). [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 14 Dec 79 p 3460] 11,464

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FRENCH-SENEGALESE MANEUVERS --Observed by the chiefs of staff of their two armies, 3,250 French and Senegalese soldiers participated in the Ndiambour 2 maneuver which ended on 14 December. At a troubled time for Africa, Senegal has strengthened its army with France's aid, increasing the number of troops from 6,000 in 1976 to 10,000 now. It receives 13 percent of the national budget and this figure will be raised to 15 percent. In 1978, the army strengthened its troops on the northern border because of the war in the Sahara and has sent both Lebanon and Zaire a battalion of 600 men. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 14 Dec 79 p 3460] 11,464

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ZAIRE

PAST, FUTURE OIL PRODUCTION ASSESSED BY COMETRA

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 7 Dec 79 p 3406

[Text] The Cometra Oil Company noted in November that petroleum production in Zaire's maritime zone, in which Cometra has a 17.72 percent share through its American subsidiary, Muanda Oil Company, is maintaining [production], as far as the GCO and Mibale installations are concerned, at the predicted rate, that is, it is rallying progressively and slowly since the water injection system was put into service. Production is now in the neighborhood of 22,000 barrels a day, and projections for the year 1980 as a whole are still set around 7.6 million barrels, a figure announced in a release on 3 October last (MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS of 12 October, p 2773).

Also, last May, the company had mentioned the possibility, starting the third quarter of this year, of producing some additional amounts coming from the first well to be drilled in a promising installation in the Mibale area. As a matter of fact, petroleum was found while drilling that first well, starting on 24 August 1979, which led to a decision to proceed with further tests in the same installation by drilling a slant well designed to evaluate the importance of the discovery, following which, if successful, a third well would be drilled in early 1980.

In conclusion, Cometra points out, while there remains a basis for hope of additional production, the start of such a production does not appear possible before March 1980, as far as is currently known, without being able to give a quantitative projection, but this does not exclude installing production equipment even now.

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